



1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the September 5, 2024 Senate Minutes (Action)
3. Report of the Chair
4. Special Order
 - Jack Blanchard
 - Associate Provost for Enterprise Resource Planning
 - Elevate Update*
5. New Business
6. Adjournment



CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sly called the meeting to order at 3:27 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, MAY 7, 2024 MEETING

Chair Sly asked if there were any corrections to the minutes as distributed; Alka Gandhi, PTK, BSOS, noted they were listed as “TTK” instead of “PTK” in the previous minutes. After hearing no further corrections, Chair Sly declared the minutes approved as amended.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Chair Sly explained that the Senate Executive Committee is responsible for setting the agenda for each Senate Meeting and charging the standing committees of the Senate and University Councils with specific reviews. Chair Sly stated that the SEC held its first meeting of the year on August 19, 2024. Chair Sly said that additional committee charges will be announced at future meetings and that Senators can follow the work of the committees through the agendas on the Senate website, or through tracking their charges on the [Senate legislation page](#).

Procedures & Guidelines

Chair Sly stated that while in a virtual meeting format, Senate procedures for in-person meetings will be adhered to as closely as possible. All University policies and expectations for appropriate conduct continue to apply during virtual Senate meetings.

Chair Sly provided a detailed overview of the procedures and guidelines for virtual meetings related to expectations, recording, muting, chat feature use, technical issues, participation, Zoom features, processes for introducing non-Senators, and voting processes. Chair Sly also detailed instructions for voting using Top Hat, a new voting platform that the University Senate will be utilizing as a replacement to PointSolutions, as PointSolutions licenses were no longer being sponsored by UMD.

Chair Sly opened the floor to questions on the procedures; hearing none, he moved to the next item in the report.

2024 BOR Staff Awards

Chair Sly stated that the Board of Regents (BOR) Staff Awards, represent the highest honor bestowed by the Board of Regents for the achievements of exempt and non-exempt staff employees at System institutions. The Senate Staff Affairs Committee coordinates the process for the University of Maryland, College Park, before making recommendations to President Pines regarding nominees for the system-level review.

Chair Sly noted that the 2024 BOR Staff Awards winner included Errica Philpott-Barber for Inclusion, Multiculturalism, and Social Justice. Chair Sly congratulated the winner and thanked them for their contributions to the campus community. Chair Sly also thanked last year’s Staff Affairs Committee Chair, Adrienne Mayo-Brown, and the committee for their work in the process.

University Senate Office Staffing Updates

Chair Sly announced that the office is searching for an Assistant Director and added that the application deadline is Friday, September 20, 2024. Chair Sly thanked David Turner, who held this position since January 2023.

SPECIAL ORDER

Veronica Marin, University Senate Executive Secretary & Director *Orientation: Senators, Senate Meetings, and Shared Governance*

Veronica Marin, Executive Secretary & Director, University Senate provided a presentation detailing the role of Senators, the operations of Senate meetings, and the University's principles of shared governance. Director Marin provided information on the role of the Senate, and information on Senate meeting materials, agenda contents, meeting structures, meeting logistics for the coming year, the importance of communicating expected absences, committee reports, types of recommendations, policy revisions, voting procedures, and quorum. Director Marin also explained how Senators and members of the campus community can track current Senate legislation on the University Senate's website. Director Marin introduced the ELMS/Canvas course for Senators to complete, the [Senator Resources and Training](#) module is available to all Senators, and explained Top Hat, the platform Senators will utilize moving forward for voting on Senate matters.

2023-2024 SENATE LEGISLATION LOG (SENATE DOCUMENT #24-25-01)

Chair Sly explained that the legislation log was shared with the University Senate to summarize last year's completed work and inform them about ongoing items for this year.

2024 COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY STAFF ELECTIONS (SENATE DOCUMENT #23-24-33) (INFORMATION)

Chair Sly explained that the 2024 Council of University System Staff (CUSS) Elections were held by the University Senate Office last spring. There were 8 nominees. Meredith Carpenter, Kalia Patricio, and Maureen Schrimpe were elected to serve as primary representatives. The three alternate representatives are Suzanne Ashour-Bailey, Adrienne Mayo-Brown, Namrata Ram-Andriessens. Chair Sly added that all representatives will serve two-year terms starting in August 2024 and serve as ex-officio members of the Staff Affairs Committee, as specified in the Senate Bylaws.

TECHNICAL AND LEGAL UPDATES TO VI-1.00 (B) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PROCEDURES (SENATE DOC #23-24-15) (INFORMATION)

Chair Sly introduced the Technical and Legal Updates to VI-1.00 (B) University of Maryland Non-Discrimination Policy and Procedures (Senate Doc #23-24-15).

Chair Sly provided a detailed explanation regarding the authority of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), noting that, in accordance with Senate Bylaws, Section 4.3.a, the SEC is empowered to act on behalf of the full Senate when a Senate meeting cannot be convened, such as

during the summer session. Chair Sly referenced actions taken by the SEC in May 2024 under this authority, which included agenda items 7, 8, and 9.

Chair Sly further explained that the SEC had reviewed and approved recommendations from the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee concerning the interim Non-Discrimination Policy. These recommendations were developed in response to the U.S. Department of Education's updated regulations on sex-based discrimination under Title IX, issued on April 19, 2024. The SEC subsequently forwarded these recommendations to the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Civil Rights & Sexual Misconduct, and the Office of the President for further consideration. A report detailing the actions taken by the SEC, along with the relevant supporting materials, was provided to members of the University Senate for review.

TECHNICAL AND LEGAL UPDATES TO VI-1.60 (A) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND OTHER SEXUAL MISCONDUCT (SENATE DOC #23-24-16) (INFORMATION)

Chair Sly introduced the Technical and Legal Updates to VI-1.60 (A) University of Maryland Policy and Procedures on Sexual Harassment and Other Sexual Misconduct (Senate Doc #23-24-16).

Chair Sly reminded that, under Senate Bylaws Section 4.3.a, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) had approved the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee's recommendations. These recommendations, which considered new federal Title IX regulations on sexual harassment and misconduct issued by the U.S. Department of Education on April 19, 2024, were forwarded to the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Civil Rights & Sexual Misconduct, and the Office of the President to aid in the development of the interim policy. Chair Sly added that a report detailing the SEC's actions and supporting materials were provided to Senators.

REVIEW OF UMD POLICY X-3.01 (A) CONCERNING TELEPHONE BILLING (SENATE DOC #22-23-20) (INFORMATION)

Chair Sly introduced the Review of UMD Policy X-3.01 (A) Concerning Telephone Billing (Senate Doc #22-23-20).

Chair Sly reminded Senators that, under Senate Bylaws Section 4.3.a, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) had approved the recommendations of the Campus Affairs Committee. These recommendations strongly advocate for the deactivation of the Telephone Billing Policy X-3.01(A). While the University Senate does not oversee policy implementation, the Campus Affairs Committee also recommended the following for consideration:

- It strongly recommends that wireless and wired communications be centrally funded by the Division of Information Technology's base budget.
- It strongly recommends establishing a process for Deans to engage with the Vice President for the Division of Information Technology when significant new technology is being considered, to discuss its potential impact on educational and research missions.

A report detailing the SEC's actions, along with supporting materials, was provided to members.

APPROVAL OF THE 2024-2025 COMMITTEE & COUNCIL SLATES (SENATE DOCUMENT #24-25-02) (ACTION)

Sarah Dammeyer, Chair of the Committee on Committees and Chair-Elect, provided background on the selection process and made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the standing committee and council slates as presented.

Chair Sly thanked Chair-Elect Dammeyer and opened the floor to discussion.

Daniel Lathrop, TTK, CMNS, motioned to amend the 2024-2025 Committee and Council Slates by removing the Research Council from the other slates for further review and consideration.

A motion to recommit the Research Council slate to the Nominations Committee was moved, discussed, and passed 103 in favor, 3 opposed, and 18 abstained.

Chair Sly asked for further discussion. Seeing no further discussion, Chair Sly called for a vote on the slates as amended. The result was 113 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention. **The motion to approve the 2024-2025 Committee and Council Slates with the removal of the Research Council Slate (Senate Document #24-25-02) passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mohammed Hajiaghayi, TTK, CMNS, moved to amend the Bylaws to allow committees to nominate up to three candidates for committee chairs, with the Senate Chair selecting the final candidate. Chair Sly opened the floor for discussion.

Kim Coles, TTK, ARHU, expressed concerns about the efficiency of the proposed process, noting that committees tend to work quickly and handle significant business. Coles emphasized that the committee chair's role is primarily to mediate meetings, while the committee members handle the substantive work. Coles questioned whether the proposed change would achieve the intended improvement in efficiency.

Chair Sly called for further discussion. Hearing none, the motion was seconded and put to a vote.

The vote resulted in a split decision, and the Senate Chair cast the deciding vote **in favor of charging the Elections, Representation, Governance (ERG) Committee to review the Bylaws.**

Ivy Lyons, Graduate, JOUR, sought clarification regarding the handling of technical issues that occurred during the voting period. Lyons observed that certain members, through the chat feature in Zoom, expressed their intent to vote "no," but their votes were not reflected in the official tally. Lyons noted that the inclusion of these "no" votes would have changed the result to 43-42, thereby affecting the outcome.

Lyons further inquired about the procedure for addressing situations where technical difficulties prevent votes from being properly recorded. If the Senate's standard voting system is unable to capture these votes, Lyons asked what measures will be taken to ensure that all votes are accurately recorded. Additionally, Lyons requested information on the timeline for resolving these technical issues, especially since some senators had confirmed their votes through the chat within

the prescribed voting period. Due to the ongoing technical challenges, Lyons requested clarification on whether votes submitted through alternative methods, such as the chat feature, would be counted for members who were present and actively participating. Lyons emphasized that the issue appeared to arise from technological difficulties rather than from any failure on the part of senators to engage in the voting process.

Chair Sly reiterated that the Senate had adopted Top Hat as its voting platform for Senate matters. However, due to technical difficulties with the new system, Chair Sly proposed that the vote on the current motion be conducted using the "raise hand" feature in Zoom.

Steven Walls, Non-Exempt Staff, VPA, raised a point of order, noting that the Senate Bylaws stipulate that certain votes are to be anonymous. Walls expressed concern that the proposed voting method did not maintain anonymity. Lyons agreed with Walls, highlighting that this method does not allow for anonymous voting.

In response, Chair Sly clarified that while the Senate Bylaws do not require all votes to be conducted by secret ballot, a motion may be made to conduct any specific vote anonymously. Chair Sly then proceeded with the vote using the "raise hand" feature in Zoom, first asking members to raise their hands for "yes" and then for "no." The results were as follows: 50 in favor, 44 opposed, and 33 abstentions. The Senate votes **in favor of charging the Elections, Representation, Governance (ERG) Committee to review the Bylaws.**

Kim Coles, TTK, ARHU, raised a question concerning the Revised Interim Policy and Procedures for the Use of Facilities and Outdoor Spaces (Senate Document #24-25-05), which had been revised by the President and was awaiting Senate action. Specifically, Coles inquired whether the interim policy put in place by the President primarily governed Appendix A, which outlines the guidelines for expressive activities on campus, and whether the revisions were concentrated in Sections 5 and 6 of those appendices. Director Marin clarified that the Campus Affairs Committee (CAC) would conduct a comprehensive review of the entire interim policy, not just the guidelines for expressive activities. Once the committee's review is complete, the revised policy will be brought before the Senate for a vote. Director Marin also explained that the relevant committees had not yet convened, as they were awaiting Senate approval of the slates for committee membership. Once approved, the committees would begin their meetings in the coming weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.